

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01

INRE-00 AID-20 NIC-01 RSR-01 /113 W

----- 013886

P R 241700 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6685

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BERLIN

USCINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL BOGOTA 2372

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, CO GER

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA AND EAST GERMANY TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS

1. THE PRESS REPORTED ON MARCH 24 THAT EAST GERMANY
AND COLOMBIA HAVE AGREED TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS. THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTEDLY ISSUED BY THE
COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE
GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA AND OF THE
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAVE AGREED TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES
OF JURIDICAL EQUALITY OF STATES, NON INTERVENTION
AND RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE. UNQUOTE

2. THE FONOFF IS CLOSED ON SATURDAY AND WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE
TO GET DETAILS. THE POL COUNSELOR TALKED WITH A SENIOR
OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY WHO SAID HE DID NOT KNOW
THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS FORTHCOMING, ALTHOUGH HE STATED THE
TEXT AS IT APPEARS IN THE PRESS SEEMS AUTHENTIC. AT THE
REQUEST OF THE FONMIN HE HAD REVIEWED DRAFT COMMUNIQUES
WITH AN EAST GERMAN MISSION OVER A MONTH AGO, BUT HAS NOT
BEEN KEPT INFORMED OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS.
HE FOUND IT SIGNIFICANT THAT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF
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EXCHANGING AMBASSADORS, AN ITEM THAT WAS INCLUDED
IN THE DRAFTS THE EAST GERMANS SHOWED HIM WHEN THEY WERE HERE.

3. THE GDR HAS HAD A COMMERCIAL MISSION HERE FOR SOME
TIME AND IT MAY BE THAT IT WILL BE RAISED TO DIPLOMATIC
STATUS WITHOUT ANY IMMEDIATE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS.
THE MISSION AND COLOMBIAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE HAD
PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF THE ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

4. AS WE REPORTED IN JANUARY THE FONMIN WAS RELUCTANT
TO ACCEED TO GDR PRESSURES FOR IMMEDIATE DIPLOMATIC
TIES.

5. WE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS EARLY NEXT WEEK.
SACCIO

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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